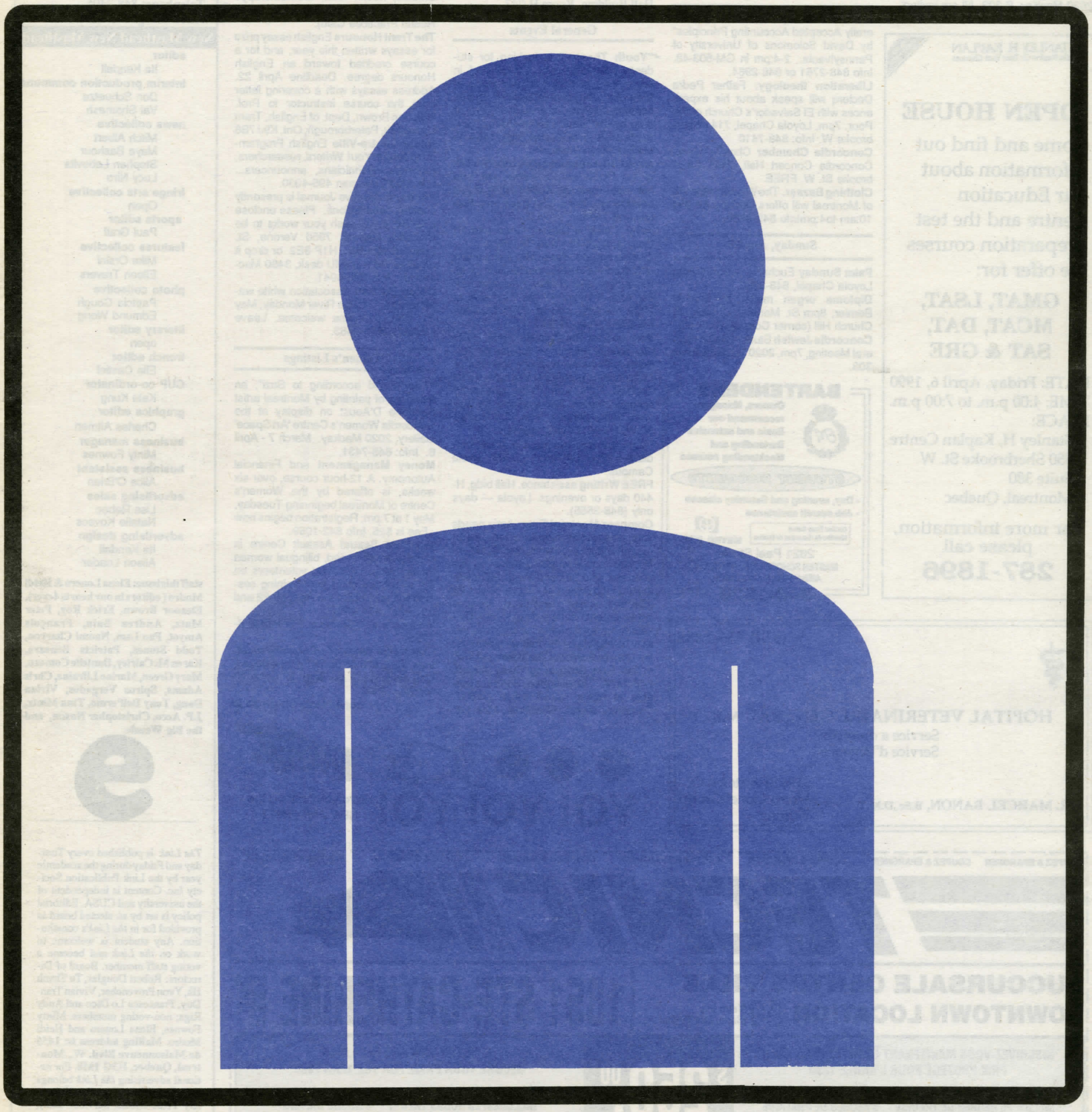
the Link

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 10, Number 40
Wednesday, April 4, 1990



The differently-abled issue

AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicize Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office in room 649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 pm Friday for Tuesday's issue and 5 pm Wednesday for Friday's paper.

Wednesday, April 4

Concordia Jewish Student Union Open House, 1:30-5pm, CJSU office 2020 MacKay, P-303. All are invited.

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Thursday, April 5

Civil Liberties Union Conference on new legislation of importance to refugees. 7:pm at 1205 Visitation.
Free 3-hour playwriting seminar sponsored by the Playwrights Circle. Info 524-3274
Andrew Homzy and Jeri Brown — jazz ensemble, 8pm, Concordia Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. FREE
Clothing Bazaar. The Women's Centre of Montreal will offers clothing for 25¢ between 4:pm and 7:pm Info 842-4780.

Friday, April 6

Ph.D. Workshop "Remodelling Generally Accepted Accounting Principles" by David Solomons of University of Pennsylvania. 2-4:pm in GM-503-48. Info 848-2761 or 848-2964.
Liberation theology: Father Pedro Declerq will speak about his experiences with El Salvador's Church of the Poor. 7pm, Loyola Chapel, 7141 Sherbrooke W. Info: 848-7410
Concordia Chamber Choir — 8pm, Concordia Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. FREE
Clothing Bazaar. The Women's Centre of Montreal will offers clothing for 25¢ 10:am to4:pmInfo 842-4780.

Sunday, April 8

Palm Sunday Eucharist, 11am & 8pm Loyola Chapel, 848-3588
Diploma organ recital by Claude Bernier, 8pm St. Matthias Church, 10 Church Hill (corner Cote St. Antoine)
Concordia Jewish Student Union General Meeting, 7pm, 2020 MacKay, room 303.

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Tuesday, April 10

Diploma organ recital by Marc-André Roberge, 8pm St. Matthias Church, 10 Church Hill (corner Cote St. Antoine)
Concordia Chamber Choir and Orchestra — 8pm, Concordia Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. FREE

Thursday , April 12

German Unification: An Alternative Perspective. A discussion with East German Environment Minister Mathias Platcek and Independent Women's activist Tatiana Boehm. Hall Building Room H-747.

General Events

"Youth Theatre" is looking for students with disabilities interested in taking part in their fall production of "Wheelie". Anyone interested should contact Carolyne Davine (848-8781) or drop by the Services for Disabled Students office, H-580, Hall Bldg, 1455 de Maisonneuve West.
Avoid Bureaucracy: If you need to talk to the CUSA co-presidents, you can call their direct line at 848-7478. If you need to talk to a CUSA exec member, call 848-7483.
John Clark: A Tribute. Concordia Art Gallery, April 12 - May 19, 1990.
The Graduate Students Association of Concordia invites nominations for its Executive. Nomination packages, for the April 6 deadline, are available at 2030 Mackay. Info at 2100 Mackay, PR-202 or 848-7900.
Services for Disabled Students: SDS has special equipment for use by students with visual, auditory, learning or motor control problems. We have: IBM/Toshiba PC's with voice, automatic scanner/reader, FM systems for the deaf, braille printers. Info: 848-3525 - SGW, H-580; Loyola, AD 121.
Legal information service at Concordia: 9-5, Mon - Fri, Room CC326, Loyola Campus.
FREE Writing assistance. Hall bldg, H-440 days or evenings. Loyola — days only (848-3555).
Compeer Montréal/Entre-Amis needs volunteers for working with people with mental health problems. 342-0057.
Do you know someone graduating this year and who has achieved distinction in student government, extra-curricular activities, athletic activities, creative achievement, outstanding to the University, or outstanding record? He/she may be eligible for the following awards: the Concordia Medal, the Malone Medal, or the First Graduating Class Award. 848-7474. Nomination Forms available at either CUSA office (H-637; Campus Centre). Deadline: May 1st.
Do you know of a graduating student who has demonstrated, thorough effort and dedication, the ability to exemplify the values of the University within the larger external community? Nomination forms at either CUSA offices (H-637; Campus centre). Deadline May 1st. 848-7474.
Photograph exhibition by Robert Bourdeau at the Concordia Art Gallery from March 1st-April 7. Hall Bldg, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. Info: 848-4750.
Peer helpers - Mondays to Thursdays, Hall bldg, room H-662, 12- 5 pm.
Get together and share your interests. Shiatsu, health food, aromatherapy? Michelle for info: 483-2807 (Alternative Health Practices Club).
The Trent Honours English essay prize for essays written this year, and for a course credited toward an English Honours degree. Deadline April 22. Address essays with a covering letter from the course instructor to Prof. Stephen Brown, Dept. of English, Trent University, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 7B8
Radio Centre-Ville English Programming Needs You! Writers, researchers, reporters, technicians, announcers... Info Matt Friedman 495-4030.
Vision: A Creative Journal is presently seeking submissions. Please enclose a SASE if you wish your works to be returned. Mail to: 7950 Verone, St. Leonard, Quebec. H1P 3E2 or drop it off at McGill's SSMU desk, 3480 MacTavish. Info 325-6941.
Co-op Student Association white water rafting at Rouge River Monday, May 21. $60, everyone welcome. Leave message 848-7463.

Women's Listings

"The World according to Suzi", an exhibiton of painting by Montreal artist Suzanne D'Aoust on display at the Concordia Women's Centre 'Art Space' Gallery, 2020 Mackay. March 7 - April 6. Info: 848-7431.
Money Management and Financial Autonomy. A 12-hour course, over six weeks, is offered by the Women's Centre of Montreal beginning Tuesday, May 1 at 7:pm. Registration begins now . Fee is $25. Info 842-1069.
Montreal Sexual Assault Centre is recruiting concerned, bilingual women interested in becoming volunteers on the telephone crisis line; training session will take place the April 20-22 and 28. Info: 934-4504.
Women's self-defense. For info 278-1755.
Concordia Women's Collective meetings, Tues at 8:30 pm or Fri. at 4:00 pm. Call 848-7411, or drop in at 2020 Mackay, P-05

continued on page 14

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Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec
Volume 10, Number 37
Wednesday, March 21, 1990

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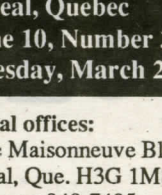

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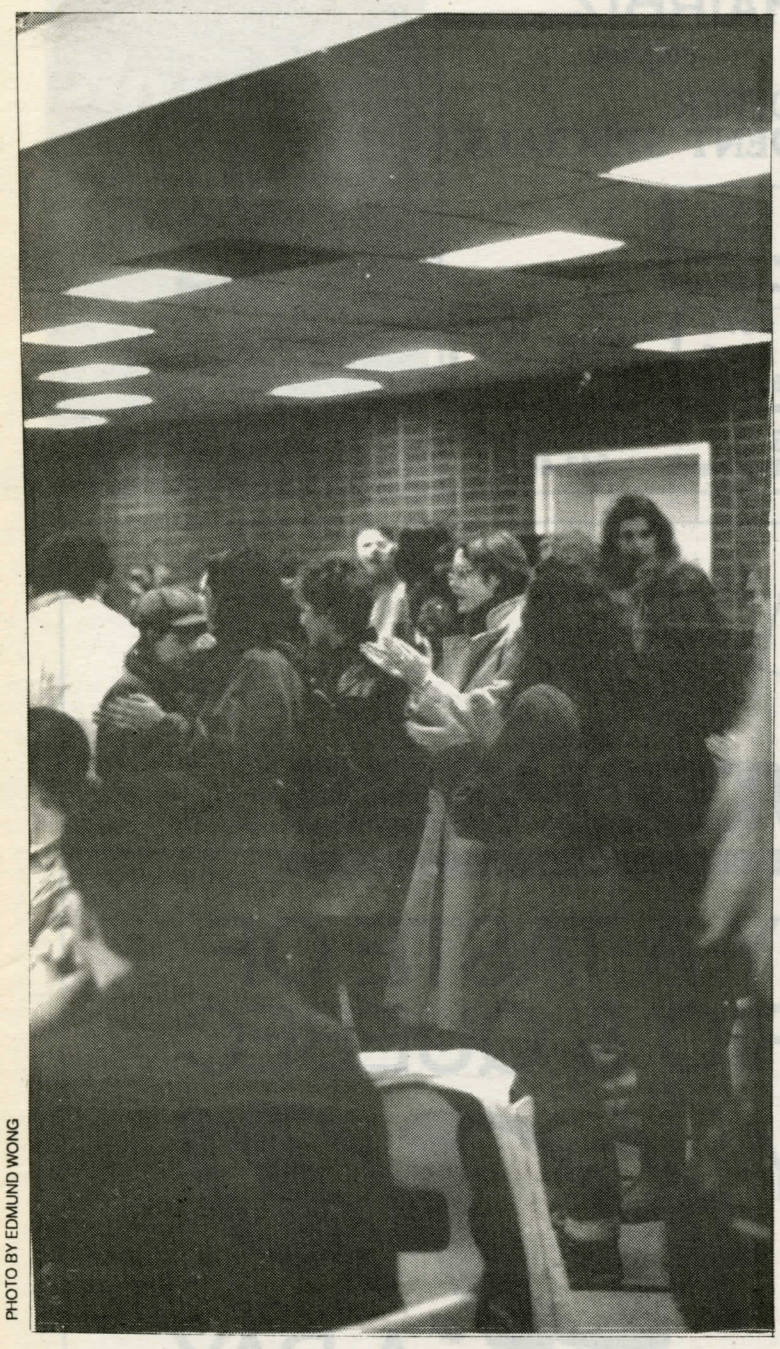

PHOTO BY EDMUND WONG

CEGEP St.-Laurent students carry their fee hike protest over to the Hall Building cafeteria on Monday afternoon.

Signed, sealed, not delivered

Library will fill pit

by Mike Orsini

They came, they signed, they drank a little.

On Monday afternoon, 20 or so champagne-swilling guests watched as the final ink hit the long-awaited contract for the new $47-million downtown library complex.

Construction on Phase Two of the library - sandwiched between Mackay and Bishop - on de Maisonneuve street, was slated to begin late last spring. It was delayed when the university decided to add four half-floors to the six-floor library plan without consulting the provincial government.

Concordia has yet to determine who or what will occupy the added space.

The new date for completion of the project is Dec. 15, 1991, with the building becoming "functional" by Spring, 1992. Construction of the building is set to begin in a few weeks.

Services vice-rector Charles Giguere, who signed the contract along with Rector Patrick Kenniff, said the project was stalled because the provincial government had to study the new proposal delivered by Concordia in Jan. 1989.

"That was the cause of the lengthy delay," Giguere said. "We had not included it (the four half-floors) in our original concept."

Michael Di Grappa, coordinator of physical resources, said the university decided that adding the floors later would be a costly bureaucratic nightmare.

"It's a lot more economical and practical to build now (since the contractors are building anyway)," said Di Grappa, who is handling the administrative end of the project.

The cost for building the library was pegged at $40-million, but the addition of the new floors boosted that figure by seven million dollars.

The provincial government's Ministere de l' enseignement superieure et science is absorbing close to three-quarters of the original $40-million price tag.

Jean Pierre Poulet, an architect with the provincial education ministry, who is working on the library complex, said the government isn't covering the cost of the extra four floors.

"The plans for what to do with those floors have not been established yet," Poulet said.

The balance of the cost will come from the university's Capital Campaign program launched in 1983 to finance the renovation of Loyola's Vanier library and building of the one downtown. Students contributed an optional one-dollar fee per credit to the campaign, which ended in 1988.

According to Montreal architect Michael Fish, Concordia will eventually have problems with the current design of the complex.

In a previous letter sent to Concordia's Board of Governors, Fish described the library plan "as an expensive, dangerous, unnecessary, and ugly proposition which contributes extra cost, extra building area and volume, delays, and an eccentric design to an important project."

Di Grappa and Giguere are hoping history won't repeat itself. The $9.2 million extension to Loyola's Vanier library was ready only late last year, although it was supposed to have been completed in June 1988.

Concordia blamed most of the delays on "tense relations" between the university and the project contractors, Valbrice Construction.

The university was forced to contend with Valbrice because government rules stipulate that provincially-financed projects must always go to the lowest bidder.

The same applies to the new downtown library complex, but Di Grappa said the university will have an on-site committee working closely with the new contractors, Jean Verreault et Fils.

"We've learned our lesson," Di Grappa said. "We're going to have to get involved a lot earlier on a day-to-day basis."

Concordia's downtown library facilities are currently spread over 11 floors in four separate buildings. All 11,000 square metres of space will be incorporated into the first three floors of the new building.

Other plans include the creation of "Place Concordia", on the complex's ground-floor, which will include more study space, seminar rooms, along with restaurants, boutiques and the Conservatory of Cinematographic Art.

TFTF shelves strike plans

by Christopher Noxon

Students voted for a three day strike by a margin of 335-209 at Monday's general assembly, but the Tuition Freeze Task Force (TFTF) says Concordia's battle against the hike is over — for this semester, at least.

"The vote tells me that students are willing to continue their opposition to the hike," said TFTF spokesperson Phil Toone. "But the numbers aren't large enough for TFTF to unleash a general strike at Concordia."

TFTF won't accept the results of the vote as a go ahead for a strike because quorum for the meeting wasn't reached. Only 552 students, of the 650 needed for quorum, voted during the assembly.

TFTF coordinators, ANEEQ officials and audience members spoke at the assembly, which drew about 150 people over three hours.

"You have started something that can become extremely big here at Concordia," said Jeff Begley, ANEEQ's external coordinator. "Despite the fact that there aren't that many people here today, something has started here that you can't reverse."

Begley said, because of TFTF, next year's fight has great potential. "I wouldn't be surprised if by September, Concordia students became activists on the scale of UQAM students."

Although TFTF has given up their strike efforts, the group is currently working on a fee boycott campaign. They are calling on students to refuse to pay the extra fees when registering for their courses.

After the assembly, about 100 student protesters from CEGEP St. Laurent, celebrating their earlier vote to continue striking, marched through the Hall building to the cafeteria.

"We came to Concordia to urge you to not give up the fight," said Fredrique Iuliani, spokesperson for CEGEP St. Laurent's student association. "We are here as a gesture of solidarity. We cannot fight alone."

PHOTO BY PATRICIA BENEZRA

The Quebec provincial police riot squad was called in last Friday when more than 1 500 students marched on the National Assembly in Québec. The students were protesting tuition fee increases.

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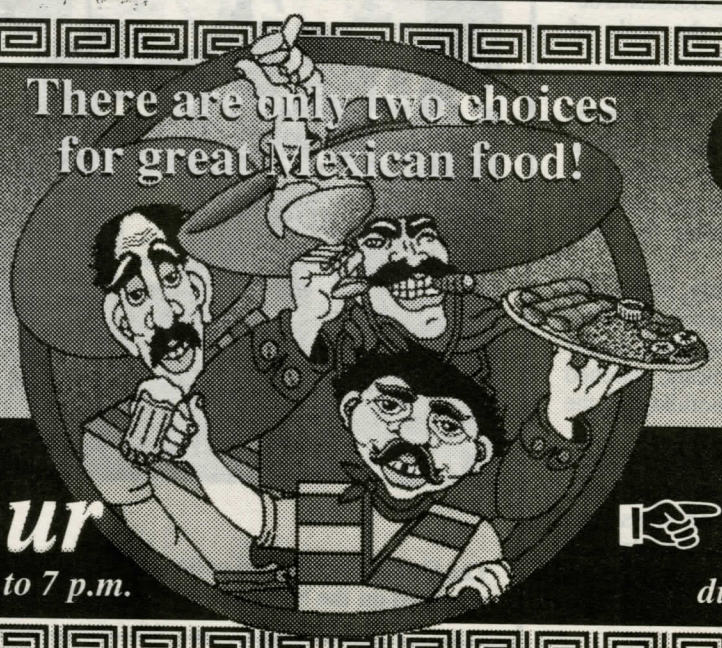

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Innu paddle on

by Andrea Bain

Hoisting an Odeyak boat over their heads, 100 Innu and Cree Natives and their supporters marched through Old Montreal last Friday, protesting the planned construction of a second hydro-electric project in northern Quebec.

They portaged the half canoe, half kayak - a symbol of their battle against the project- from the Alexandra wharf to Place Vauquelin, chanting "Stop James Bay II", and "Non a la Baie James II".

"This is an Inuit boat built to save ourselves and all living animals. It symbolizes the human journey through life," said Cree Chief Matthew Coon-Coome. "We're about to be flooded again; electricity is being sold and exported to the United States and contracts have been signed. It's (the project) just a way to make more money."

The first James Bay project, estimated at $1.5 billion, was built 20 years ago on the La Grande River. Although Hydro Quebec has not released any official figures, some estimate the cost of that project close to $20 billion.

Hydro's $23-billion deficit is largely due to the cost of that project, and is expected to take Quebecers a minimum of 60 years to pay off, the Innu argue.

According to the Innu, the proposed construction of James Bay II could cost as much as $47 billion and affect an area the size of France. They also fear it would flood land along the Quebec's northern Great Whale River

Native groups maintain that 5,500 lakes and 5,000 square miles of commercial forests will be flooded and destroyed, along with waterfowl, nesting sites and caribou calving grounds.

But construction can't begin until an environmental impact assessment is done. Native groups want the review to be made by representatives from both the federal and provincial governments.

Quebec's Energy Minister, Lise Bacon, said any delays will be costly, resulting in the closure of four aluminum smelters if development isn't completed by 1998.

But Ottawa is refusing to agree on any timetable for the talks.

"It's inconceivable that Quebec wouldn't have an impact study on this mega-project," Snowdon councillor Marvin Rotrand told the rally. "It's time to put our foot down and say 'Enough is enough!'"

Protesters then marched to the Hydro-Quebec offices on Rene Levesque blvd., where officials invited them in to hold talks.

But Robbie Niquanicuppo, acting chief of the town of Whapmasoostui, told the cheering crowd, "We're not going in until they stop the project!"

About half the protesters left from Hudson Bay last Monday and will paddle to New York City over the next three weeks, arriving on Earth Day (April 22), in a bid to end further flooding of the land they live on.

PHOTO BY ANDREA BAIN

Canoe say James Bay II?

Rushton's racism back at Western

By Robin Parker

TORONTO (CUP) -- Controversial professor Phillipe Rushton will return to the classroom this fall and students across Ontario are outraged.

About 200 students chanting, "One race, the human race," occupied the department of psychology at the University of Western Ontario last Wednesday. They came from U of T, York and Guelph to protest with the Academic Coalition for Equality (ACE) at Western.

Rushton's theory, which states orientals are racially superior to whites who are superior to blacks, has been widely denounced as "bogus" and unscientific. Rushton plans to integrate his theories into a core psychology course he will be teaching at Western this fall.

"We're not going to allow him to enter classrooms to teach," said ACE spokesperson, Kizito Serumaga.

Gesturing to the different student groups, Serumaga added, "We can march, we can sit in, we can put out a call and have 200 people arrive. We have the power to disrupt. The level of publicity will be very high if that man starts teaching."

But not all students were sure Rushton should be kicked out.

"Rushton tried to take bits of previously unconnected facts and connect them. That's what we, as researchers are trying to do," said Ellen Leibman, a Western graduate student.

"In Rushton's case, is it the answer or the question that is wrong? While I understand the protesters' concerns, demanding that he be fired is not a practical solution."

Tom Collins, Western's vice president of academic affairs, agreed.

"I have dealt with this at length. Rushton is tenured. He has academic freedom. He will not be fired," Collins said.

Rushton first proposed his theory of racial hierarchy last January. He based it on statistics like cranial capacity, IQ, ovulation rate and penis size. His studies are funded by an extreme-right wing American organization with links to white supremacist groups.

Many scientists have disputed his theories, including those whose research he used for his own conclusions.

Neil Vidmar, a Western psychology professor, calls Rushton's work "racist and pseudo-scientific."

ACE co-founder Geraldine Stephenson said the rally was an "appetizer" for what will occur if Rushton begins teaching this fall.

The students met in the University Community Centre, before moving to the psychology department, and then to George Pederson's office, Western's president.

"I heard the protest," said Collins.

"Students have the right to boycott classes. It is not fair to say that the university is not concerned with racism. We are working on all kinds of policies that deal with race relations."

Lithuanians say 'no tanks'

by Peter Matz

While Soviet troops continue to seize buildings in Lithuania, nationalists here stood in front of the Soviet Consulate on du Musée Avenue last Saturday, singing partisan songs and waving flags to protest Russian pressure tactics.

Urmus Soomet and his family, visiting from Ontario, yelled, "Thanks, but no Tanks!"

"Just look around you and see the range of generations here today, from young toddlers to the elderly," said Soomet. "And they all believe in the same thing (Lithuanian independence). This is a wonderful exercise in democracy!"

The crowd erupted into a cheer when a messenger delivering a letter to Soviet Consul Victor Batourov returned to report the diplomat said Lithuania should be free.

But Batourov had doubts about how Lithuanians were going about their drive for independence, added Milda Danys, vice president of the Lithuanian Canadian Community's Montreal branch (LCCM), which organized the rally.

The Soviet militia occupied government buildings last week and closed down printing plants. The Lithuanian parliament recently refused to annul its March 11 declaration of independence, sparking the Soviet takeover.

LCCM president Arunas Staskevicius accompanied his colleague into the consulate. "Batourov accepted our letter, which he said would reach (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev via the Soviet ambassador in Ottawa," he said.

"I'm praying this (invasion) is a bluff," said Staskevicius. "They (Lithuanians) have no way of defending themselves. If anyone throws the first stone, it'll be Moscow."

Staskevicius said he wants Ottawa to fully recognize the new independent Lithuanian government by sending a Canadian ambassador to the country.

The protesters eventually left the consulate, and blocked traffic as they marched westward down Sherbrooke and headed south on Peel.

The march ended with protesters laying a wreath and singing the Lithuanian national anthem at Dominion Square.

Karlis Freibergs, a Latvian-Canadian political science student at McGill, said many Westerners are misinformed about the Baltic states, believing they have always been Russian territory.

"The Soviets propagated a lie for 50 years, long enough for the people in the West to actually believe it," said Freibergs.

The three Baltic states of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia were annexed by the Soviet Union in World War II in a political pact between Josef Stalin and German leader Adolf Hitler.

Both the Latvian and Estonian parliaments will push for independence within the next six months. The Latvian Popular Front is expected to win two-thirds of the seats in an election to be held early this month.

Comment

Letters for peace... please

by Dilip Patel

Faustino Lombe, a school teacher in Zambia, is detained without charge in 1977 for being a member of a banned opposition party. In 1985, Amnesty International adopts him as a prisoner of conscience — imprisoned for his non-violent belief in democracy. By the end of 1987, Lombe receives 18,000 letters and greeting cards. Within a few months he is released. He now lives in Toronto.

Lombe spoke at Concordia on Mar. 23. Amnesty's Concordia chapter, a CUSA club, sponsored the event.

Amnesty coordinator Neeru Gupta received a letter from Lombe while he was in prison.

"Please know that I highly value your efforts to secure my release," he wrote. "It has been a tremendous grace to me. Please, write President Kaunda a letter, simply ask him to release me, in the same way he has released the other eleven men who were originally detained with me in 1981. Please ask friends of yours to do the same. The idea is that, if Kaunda could get as much mail as I have, he would release me because such requests would act as moral judgement on his conscience."

Gupta says she thought Lombe would never receive her letter. "I did not think that the letter would get past the prison officials. But I always had hope..."

Her letter, and 6,000 others from Canada, did reach him — and he replied to many of them, thanking the writers.

During his speech, Lombe described the poor prison conditions he experienced.

"You sleep on a bare floor, if you are lucky you are given blankets. The cell is five feet high, and you are given boiled beans as food."

When Lombe went on a hunger strike, some of the conditions improved.

In 1973, the newly formed United Progressive Party (UPP) was banned by the government. Lombe and many leaders were imprisoned without charge for a few months. In Zambia, authorities are not obliged to reveal their reasons for detaining people under the Preservation of Public Security Regulations.

Once released, Lombe was considered a dissident.

"I could not even teach and I was banned," he said.

The government gave other parties an opportunity to regroup and organize in 1976. When it feared losing power, the government amended the constitution for a single party system. Members of UPP, including Lombe were accused of disrupting elections and imprisoned without charge.

Lombe was released in March 1981 because the courts found he that he was detained on unreasonable grounds. In July 1981, he was detained again, on the grounds he had helped organize a rescue operation for a group of prisoners.

Amnesty International adopted him as a prisoner of conscience and he started receiving letters from a group in the Netherlands.

"I was losing hope, and when I started receiving these letters, it felt good. They gave me hope," Lombe said.

When Amnesty started a worldwide campaign in 1986, he was receiving 500 letters a day at one point. Prison officials asked him if he was organizing a foreign army to rescue him.

When he was finally released in 1988, Amnesty helped him flee the country. He came to Canada because he could see, by reading their letters, Canadians are very warm people. He thanked Amnesty for helping to obtain his release and told the Concordia audience that writing letters is successful.

"Without Amnesty International, the amount of human rights violations would be unspeakable," he said. "Letter writing works because, when you are writing to the president, he fears international world opinion."

Letters

Together "we" must work together

to the editor,

In the February 2 edition of *the Link* a glaring misprint was made in my article on the massacre of fourteen women at Ecole Polytechnique, which was written on behalf of the Baha'i community of Outremont. It should have read: "it is *we* (not "men") who bear the ultimate responsaibility to vindicate their untimely passing by continuing the struggle to achieve real equality between men and women. Together, *we* (not "men") must work to build a world where women can become full and equal partners, in all areas of human endeavor.

The Baha'i Faith unequivocally supports the principle of equality, condemns all forms of prejudice and encourages the promotion of a new world order based on the fundamental principle of the unity of mankind.

Peter Menear

Don't bash me in

to the editor,

I would like to make a point about some of the comments directed at men as a group, in a few of the articles of the Link's Women's Issue. Before those readers that are more vengeful become as angry as the thunder of Zeus, I ask them to listen to what a number of *people* are sick of. It is none other than 'men bashing' to borrow Ms. Evans' term. Of course, the 'men bashing' seen in those few articles of the women's issue was more the result of rage, and not of insecurity. I realize that the rage is often justified. Yet, isn't it the sign of an intelligent person to remain calm, and challenge the problem effectively? I was impressed with the relevant points that were well made. However, I am writing this letter in response to those points which use the strategy of stooping to the level of your enemy (*some* men) by making stabs and attacks at *all* men.

Here are few of the exaggerations I found: "Female international students are more vulnerable than men." This comment makes it sound as if there is a great difference in vulnerability. Isolation is a very difficult thing for men to deal with, too.

"Women still end up doing most of the (house)work." The male is probably doing a much greater amount of total work, which I agree, is unjust. But the fact still remains, and it should be realized.

"Traditional theatre (has) limited roles for women as either "whores or hairbrains'." Modern plays do not have such roles. Very few people go to see traditional plays today. Furthermore, Shakespeare does not portray women as 'whores or hairbrains'; Lady Macbeth is the backbone for her wimpish husband.

It was said without much forethought, I am sure, that "Racism, poverty, domestic violence, homophobia, child abuse, Apartheid, incest ... all are violence against women." Their point is that oppression, all forms of which are interconnected, is based on power, through the use of which "we" (women, one would assume), are all assaulted. "They" fail to note that the majority of their types of oppression affect both sexes, often equally. It would appear that they deny any males experiencing child abuse, poverty, suffering homophobia, Apartheid, domestic violence, and incest. Perhaps "their" piece needs rewriting.

"... even though men are ruining (the planet) they might not be able to fix it." I must point out that women have been here as well, ruining this planet as well as men, enjoying the technology and comforts that are responsible. many exclusively 'feminine' necessities and luxuries can be mentioned, I am sure. Men are not solely responsible, as this statement implies.

"... while men fumble ignorantly with their (women's) bodies ...." This is bad. It is, quite clearly, pure contempt for men as a group. It is a generalization. It is shameful in its falsehood. I am sure that many women would contest that statement; all of the few that I asked did. The statement is nothing more than a low-down attack.

Furthermore, the statement about how it was a shock that Daigle and Todd should have even been subpoenaed, is extremely subjective. It is very pro-choice, and anti-abortionists would have a lot to say on the statement, in spite of it being used against men. Surely, no court would force a woman to have an abortion at the father's insistence. That statement was a very bad use of the event to serve the purpose of attacking men.

Attacking *all* men, whether justified or not, will only turn *all* men away, perhaps for good, when some of us would be more than willing to help you.

Think about it. You may be hurting your cause. And realize that "all men are the same" is a statement, just as inaccurate as "all women are the same."

Just think about it.

Charles R. Billo

Herstory more than just victimization

to all the women who participated in the women's issue,

Sisters;

I saw the women's issue in the box in the hall and, picking it up, found a quiet place and read it from cover to cover,

Sisters, thank you for writing. For speaking your truths. For revealing a part of herstory seldom heard.

But — tonight, upon finishing reading, I feel disturbed. Sisters: so much pain in these pages. So much rage. And, yes, I even heard fear, and helplessness. I read about women being raped, women being murdered, women being hurt and humiliated and victimized. I read about a war between men and women, and even between women and women (although I am told I must not call lesbians women.)

Yes, the voices of the silent ones *must* be heard, the voices of the subjugated, violated women. But is this all we wish to put in our women's issue? Surely we are not just victims?

No, I cry out that we are not. I cry out that indeed we have cause to celebrate and be joyful. And I, for one, intend to do so every day of my life. As a woman I can build. I can create. I can sing, and dance. As a woman I can love. I can nurture. I can hold, and I can release.

As a woman, I am aware of my connectedness to all things; to nature, and to people. I am sister, daughter, friend, mother, partner. I have a responsibility towards the Earth, my home; towards women, men and children, my sisters and brothers; many of whom are in chains.

But I know that hatred and rage and fear are terrible chains, and I want none of them. To be actively involved in breading chains is my work and my responsibility. And I celebrate this work.

The whole story, herstory, is not the story of brutalized, victimized women but the story of women bravely fighting to break the chains that bind all people, children, women and men; and there can be, must be joy along with the pain.

In solidarity

Stéphanie Bénétea

What about the seniors?

to the editor

As an adjunct to the debate over the proposed increase in tuition fees, I would like to bring to your attention Concordia's lack of provision for senior citizens.

People aged 65 and over are accorded special prices in a number of fields: transportation (subway, bus, fares,), entertainment (movie tickets), recreation and fitness (YMCA membership fees), medicine (at drug stores) and even bank service charges. But there is no special for a Concordia education.

Is it, perhaps, that Concordia wants to discourage people over 65 from attending courses? Are we not worth educating? Are we cluttering up the classrooms? If these are Concordia's views, they are not shared by McGill.

McGill accords a 50% discount in tuition fees for senior citizens. Why does Concordia charge us the full rate?

Christina Myler

Manipulating statistics

to the editor,

I wonder where Elena Lonero wanted to take her article on female masturbation. Titled with the cutesy, 'Have you had an orgasm today?' while expounding on the virtues of female self-pleasure and the importance of every woman to gain the knowledge of its practice. Lonero takes some derisive jabs at male sexuality. Describing male masturbation as 'jerking off' and men as people who routinely fumble with female bodies when having sex. Added to this is the seemingly separate issue of her using outmoded statistics in a manipulative manner to make it look as if the issue of female masturbation is still in the frigid fifties. The matter at hand is not to question the promotion of female masturbation but rather Lonero's sloppy maneuverings playing itself off as progressive journalism.

First off, men jerking off is far from a sensible definition of what male masturbation constitutes. Lonero's description, albeit, it is a term males themselves use callously, leaves one with the impression that a male masturbating is only doing such because he wants only to come. I would argue that male sexuality is equally as complicated and intricate as female. But when it is couched in terms

like jerking off one can't help but feel a certain reverse sexism on the part of Lonero. Male masturbation is in Lonero's article excluded from the need for pleasure and fantasy common to us all.

Using statistics which were tabulated well before most of the student readership was born, Lonero attempts to make her arguments more forceful. She contrasts the 1953 Kinsey report, citing only percentages, with a 'more recent' one, citing a population figure. She says that the Kinsey Report said 20% of women masturbate in the U.S. A. in 1953, while 38% had never done so. She immediately follows with an unsubstantiated 'recent figure', which might as well have come from a coffee vendor, that says 13 million U.S. women don't masturbate.

Let's say that the 13 million number is correct. We have 13 million of a population of approximately 125 million, which gives us a percentage of just over 10%. This improvement is totally ignored by Lonero. This omission by Lonero is truly graphic, strictly looking at the numbers, we have '20' and '38' contrasted by '13 million. I'm sure the panic raised sent some of us running off to the Laurentians.

If she had stopped there maybe my criticism would be blunted, but she gleefully continues. She applies the 13 million figure to Canada saying to half the population of our country- big deal. It is a clear misrepresentation to do such a thing. Equally irrelevant and unenlightening, she adjusts the figure and says that it is equal to the population of Manitoba. But we never find out how much the population of prairie Manitoba is. Clearly our sympathies are being toyed with on this statistical joyride.

Was Lonero making incisive commentary using stale phrases like 'society says' and the 'old in and out'? Besides promoting female masturbation as a remedy for bad heterosexual sex, Lonero is here to coach all those inhibited female *Link* readers. Those who are her little 'honeys', whose egos have been bruised by Maxwell Smart lovers, and who talk about masturbation over tea. Also, her condescension seems to be equally directed towards women and men.

Drove Sukhdeo

Letters

A word from our fan club president

to the editor,

As a long-time reader of your paper, I naturally did my level best to encourage friends and acquaintances among the student body to turn out at the polls and vote "no" to your requested seven cent fee levy. Unfortunately I ran smack into that darned old apathy you are constantly decrying, which in this instance seems to have been your savior. Nearly all the people I canvassed shared my opinion that *the Link* is an embarrassment and a waste of wood pulp, but despite their promises to help, most of them told me later in the week that they hadn't bothered to vote. I notice that your victory announcement only says that "students voted overwhelmingly in favour" of the hike, without specifying *how many* students. By any chance did the returns come back something like 23-Yes, 15-No? Come on, don't be coy about the numbers.

In the last pre-plebiscite issue you attempted to justify *the Link*'s cliquish nature and editorial tunnel-vision by saying that students unhappy with the paper should take responsibility for making it better by offering their comments and criticisms. I'm taking you at your word.

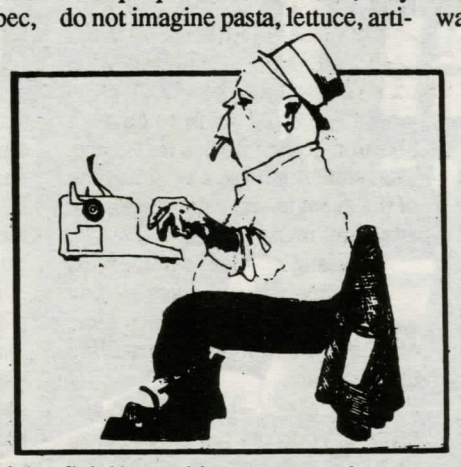
My bitterness at the stunning upset at the polls was somewhat mitigated when I say that the first post-referendum issue was another Women's Issue special. Usually these are veritable treasure-troves of all those things that keep me reading the university press: giftless but horribly earnest "revolutionary" poetry, logic-free hyperbolic whining passing for political discourse, self-righteous platitudes by the truckload, and of course a refreshingly free-spirited disdain for grammar, syntax and style. I must say, however, that in all of these regards the Mar. 21 edition falls short of being a truly great Women's Issue. (Of course, I don't really expect you to consistently match the standards set by your historic Dec. 13 Massacre Appropriation Special). Nevertheless, I had promised myself I would get involved in *my* student paper if the fee increase was passed, so now I'm taking the time to share my comments and criticisms as requested.

The Concordia Women's Collective — do these people have any particular mandate other than publicly feuding with the owners of dinky jazz bars? Their peculiar sidebar at the bottom of page nine indicates that the words "violence against women" should be understood to straddle such diverse phenomenon as poverty, racism, lack of day-care facilities, etc. Look, we all agree that food is better than evil, if only because it's so much nicer, but not only is it unreasonable to equate all these wrongs, it also makes for piss-poor politics. For starters, it is only common sense to expect a rapid devaluation of the words "violence against women" if you make it a catch-all for everything that is evil. Eight thousand cases of conjugal assault are reported annually in Quebec, and god knows how many sexual assaults, but the challenge still isn't quite big enough for the crusading talents of the Concordia Women's Collective and Restaurant Vigilantes; they're going to topple apartheid at the same time. (Of course, if all you do is talk, there's no such thing as biting off more than you can chew). Then there's their resounding call to oppose any system "which allows anyone to use their power to control or oppress others." Look, you don't have to be a Thomas Hobbes to see a problem with this. How are you going to stop sexual assault and domestic violence without using social controls? How are you going to prevent people from killing and eating each other for that matter? Oh, that's not what they meant? Well, it's what they said, and it's stupid.

And hey! here on page 11 there's more stupid stuff by the Concordia Women's Collective. "1989: the year in review": *L'Affaire Upstairs* gets trotted out once again! Is this the only thing that ever happened to these people? And savour that whiny, persecuted tone. Share in the tribulations borne by the Christ-like Concordia Women's Collective! Groove to their idea-packed mantra/slogan, "WE WILL NOT BE SILENCED!". Fine. NOW WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY? What is your program? What are you doing? Where are your ideas? What *is* a Concordia Women's Collective? With sharp spokespeople like these, feminism doesn't need enemies.

More pseudo-feminist mucking about with words and their meanings in Patrizia Tavormina's opaque article "Women, lesbians and heterosexism": "When most people think of 'woman', they do not picture lesbians. Even fewer people imagine Black, Jewish, Latina, Native or differently-abled lesbians."

This is undeniable, but I don't think that it's necessarily a bad thing, because the Patrizia Tavormina way of doing things seems a little bit unwieldy. When most people think of 'food', they do not imagine pasta, lettuce, artificial bacon bits, sno-cones, lemon drops, lamb chops, and need I go on? And yet (and this is part of the magic of language) *none of those things are actually excluded by the use of the word 'food'* (except the bacon bits possibly). It is Tavormina's claim that "implicit in the word 'woman' is heterosexuality". Well, I checked the OED and the Winston College Dictionary, and while the Winston entry includes some rather loaded examples of usage, there's absolutely nothing in either pertaining to sexual preference. Of course, these dictionaries are probably tainted with oppressive values or whatever, but even if Tavormina chooses to wave aside these objections, her stance on nomenclature still raises a lot of problems. "Black, Jewish, Native, Latina and Asian" is hardly an exhaustive list of all the many human categories that she'll have to acknowledge before attaining true political correctedness. Where are the Kurds, the Berbers, the Australian aborigines, the Polynesians, the Walloons, the Gypsies and the Tartars? Apologize, Patrizia, and then start rhyming off all the nationalities too. And hey, "Asians" is a pretty sweeping term. What if the Japanese and the Tibetans feel that they deserve separate mention? Christ, if the Latinas and Blacks get wind of this, we'll be up all night! This entire fetish of social taxonomy is truly the province of pinheads, and it's just the sort of issue-surrogate that seems to dominate the attention of the *Link* staff. If people were really going to mentally subdivide each other in this manner, the effect would be to reify differences, not reconcile them. Aside from that it's tedious . And by the way, Patrizia, "differently-abled" isn't a fucking word, if only because "abled" isn't a word. Nor does the use of sickly euphemisms make the world a kinder, gentler place. (Hey, how do you feel about "samely-abled"? Catchy, huh? Go ahead and use it, be my guest).



Page 17: big educational spread on masturbation. Now, if I weren't truly writing this critique in good faith, I would make a cheap shot about the masturbatory content of university journalism was for once finding overt expression. But I'll resist that urge, because I feel that a good cause is being served. After all, everyone should be able to avail themselves of a good wank when they need it. Still, there are a couple of items to be discussed here. If I understand Elena Lonero, she is implying (paragraph 16) that men masturbate more frequently and freely than women because the mass media taught them how, whereas women are denied the necessary information. Now *Link* coverage of gender-related issues is usually not too flattering to men, but this seems a tad excessive. Maybe men do "fumble ignorantly with women's bodies" (paragraph 6), but I think a lot of men might have managed to figure out the basics of spanking the carrot without the help of the "many media images you've seen depicting a hand holding something terribly penis-like." (By the way, what the hell are you talking about here, Elena?). In any case, I understand that the practice predates mass media. If your intention is to clear women of possible accusations that they are too dumb to figure out how to masturbate, I think you'd be on safer ground saying that they are socialized to suppress their sexuality, or perhaps that their more complicated, less teleological genitals are harder to figure out. And further on the subject of "ignorant fumblers", I can just imagine how you Arbiters of Correctedness at *the Link* would howl if the gender references were reversed to produce an article suggesting that the problem with women today is that they just don't know how to sexually satisfy a man. Why, I just bet that you "would not be silenced."

Well, we've not even scratched the surface of the issue really, but this is stretching on a bit. Wish I had time for the heart-rending Animal Rights/Feminism thing on page 19, the stirring poetry, the sports coverage, etc. I realize that you probably have length restrictions for letters to the editor, and I'm not altogether certain this will qualify for publication under the terms of the Student Press Muzzling Act, or the Code of Baby Rabbit Realism or whatever it is, but I think that it would be only sporting of you to run this letter in its entirety, in view of your pre-referendum pledges to pluralism. Remember, perfectly good trees go to the blade so your little cabal can have an exclusive pulpit from which to spout their unexamined opinions, and I pay for it. Now I'm paying even more for it, so kindly give me my share of *the Link* this once. After that, I "will be silenced." But if you can't publish this uncut, please don't run it at all.

Thanks for your time and attention, and keep up the fine, fine work.

PS. I was glad to see that your length restrictions for letters are flexible (Jane Ellis' opus in Mar. 16 issue), or does that apply only to politically correct correspondents?

Carl Panzram

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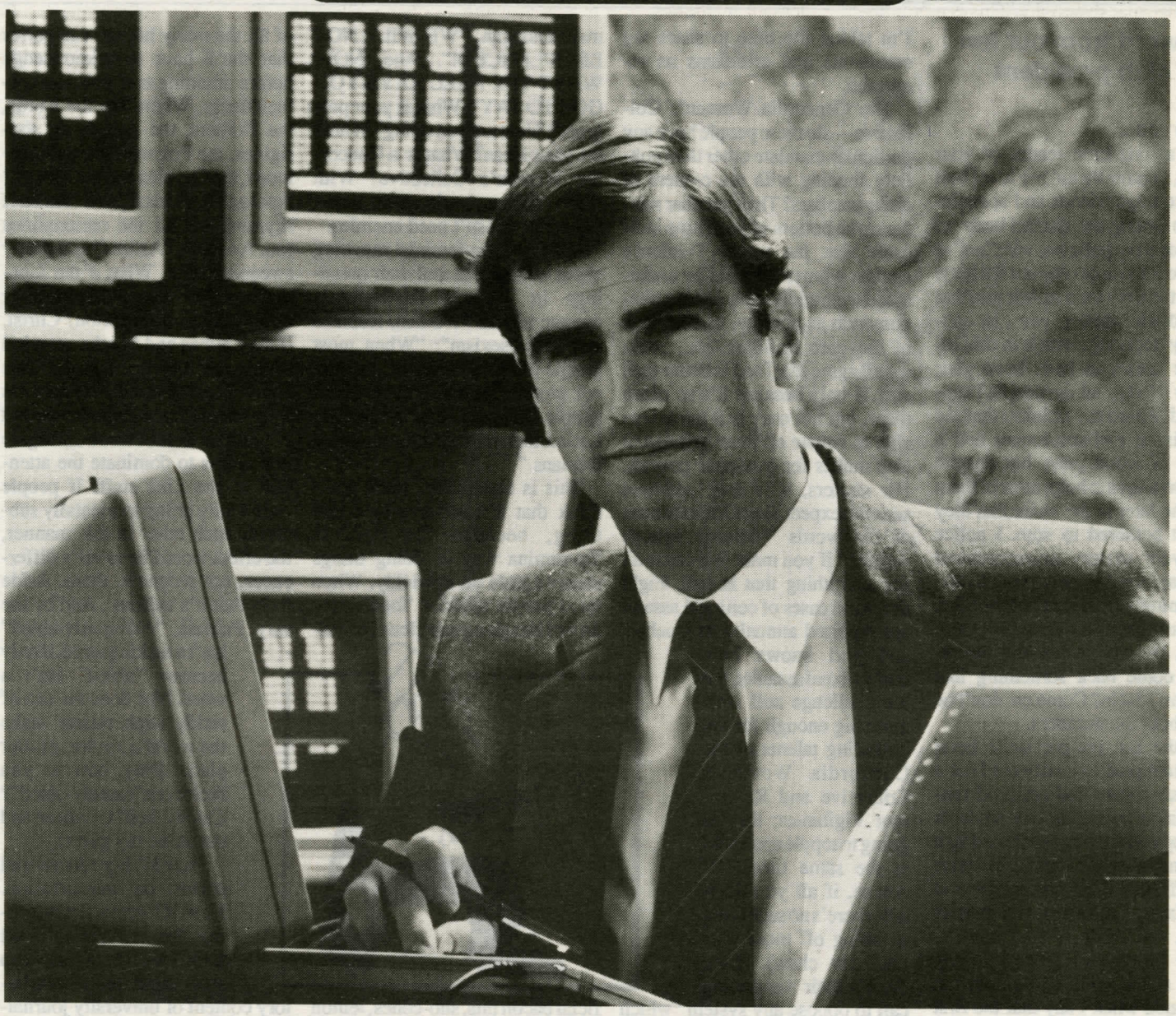

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A patient called 'doctor'

by Stephen Lebovits

Stuffed animals in a variety of colours, shapes and sizes line the walls and sit perched on her bed. There's a colour television and a VCR, and tons of pictures stuck to the walls.

But she also has some things most young adults can do without: a respirator to help her breathe, an emergency button at arm's reach, and bedrails to keep her from falling to the floor.

Joyce Elliot's home is the 8th floor of the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Last December marked Joyce's ninth year in room D-892. She suffers from Werdnig Hoffmann's Syndrome, or Infantile Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a rare form of muscular dystrophy. This is a progressive and fatal paralysis of the body and limbs, a condition she was diagnosed with when she was three months old.

Montreal's Muscular Dystrophy Association's most recent statistics show that 1.5 people in 100,000 have the syndrome, and as of last September, about 1,093 Canadians suffered from it.

She lies in bed day after day, unable to move, or even turn her head. She breathes through an incision made in her windpipe to which the respirator is attached.

Children afflicted with this condition rarely live beyond three months. If they are lucky, they may survive until the age of four. Joyce, adopted at birth, was told she would not live past the age of eight. She's now almost 30.

Four years ago, she had her room painted purple, her favourite colour. It's the only one on the floor that isn't a bland sanitary white. "It's soothing," she says.

Beside her bed, on the top shelf amid baseball caps, displayed in a small gold frame, is a postcard-sized, black and white photograph of herself at age three.

The TV is just to her right. The last movie she's seen is Roger Rabbit. Nothing special, she says. Although she's not an avid TV viewer, Joyce enjoys the news, some comedies, and hockey games.

"I love hockey!" Joyce says. The wall facing her bed is covered with pictures of the Canadiens, with autographs from Mats Naslund, Shayne Corson and others. When Chris Nilan played for Montreal, he used to visit her regularly.

Joyce has never seen an actual game at the nearby Forum, but has had several offers. The wheeelchair seats are at ice-level, and that's too cold for her. One player offered her box seats, high above the ice, but again she refused because she wouldn't be able to see over the box's railings.

So Joyce passes the time reading, something she enjoys. But since it's an effort just to turn the pages, she tends to read educational material. "If I'm going to make the effort, I might as well learn something," she says.

She tried listening to cassette novels, but stopped when she found her attention wandering.

This fondness for reading led her to get a degree in psychology from the University of Waterloo. The name-tag outside her room reads 'Dr. Joyce Elliot.'

Earning her degree through correspondance was long, but Joyce wishes that more courses were available, so she could pursue a career in Special Education and Development. She wants to help deaf, blind and other physically-challenged people learn. "They're the ones who really need it," she says.

Dr. Earl Rubin, who has known Joyce for almost six years, says she's not just another patient.

"She's a resident at the hospital, she knows more about her own disease than anyone," he says.

Dr. Aurora Côté says Joyce is a good listener and has helped her cope in difficult situations. Joyce also taught Côté to speak English; the bad words first, of course.

Joyce doesn't get many visitors, including her family. The hospital setting upsets them too much. But one aunt does visit her every Sunday.

But Joyce doesn't let that bother her. When she thinks back to living with her mother in lower Westmount, it brings back pleasant memories. She recalls growing up with lots of pets. Her favourite animal reflects her personality: she loves cats.

"They're so intelligent and independent," she says.

Her last one was a silver Tabby named Tiger.

"When I left he went crazy. He sat at the door, wouldn't eat, wouldn't go anywhere, (he) just sat there waiting for me to come home."

Pets aren't allowed in the hospital because of the many asthmatic patients.

Joyce doesn't mind the hospital that much anymore. It's a routine now. She's up at eight every morning because she gets hungry about then. Supper is served at 4:30, and the food is "tolerable", but she wouldn't mind having an Italian meal once in a while. The patients get spaghetti and macaroni, but it's not the same, she says.

Joyce decided living at the hospital would be the best thing because of her worsening condition. Over the last two years, her health has deteriorated steadily.

On Mar. 6, Joyce decided to stop using her respirator because it was very uncomfortable. That night, Joyce went to bed and awoke the next morning in good spirits. She said she was happy because "people cared," and went back to sleep.

Joyce Elliot died peacefully the next morning — 17 days from her 30th birthday.

As the flame of a single candle flickered during her memorial service at the hospital, Joyce, who arranged her own funeral, was quoted by her social worker, Nancy Bunge: "To live in the hearts you leave behind is not to die."

graphic by Allison Loader

Staying afloat in alphabet soup

PHOTO BY MAGUED MORCOS

by Mike Orsini

Scrgc Waiils rcmcmbcrs hls clcncmtary sohccl oiassnatcs iaughimg umocmtrclladiy as he\ trlcb to gct thrcugh a paragraph cf tcxt.

If you were dyslexic, this is what you'd probably be seeing. Dyslexics often confuse letters like "o" and "c," which makes reading frustrating.

When Serge Wallis was asked to read before his grade two class, he cringed.

"I would just hide in my seat when I was asked to read," he recalls. "I wouldn't read because I couldn't. It's like someone's got your eyes in a vice-grip and they're pulling and pulling."

Wallis was diagnosed as a "classic" dyslexic at the age of 15. Last year, he was rediagnosed as a "severe" dyslexic.

Today, he's getting the last laugh. At 33, he is in his second year studying art education at Concordia.

Getting there was the hardest part. Wallis failed every year beginning in grade one. He finally graduated from an alternative high school in Indiana, his 23rd school.

"It was very hard on my mom," he says. "We would have to move every six months, but she was an educator and knew how to beat the system."

Wallis was drafted into the U.S. military after completing high-school, a time he calls a turning point in his life.

"The military system succeeded where the education system failed," says Wallis. "It taught me something I needed: self-esteem."

After coming to Canada, Wallis spent some time in the Canadian Armed Forces before deciding to pursue art. He worked as a potter before returning to school.

Wallis says, like many dyslexics, he had difficulty coming to grips with the learning disability. About 70 Concordia students have requested help from Disabled Services at Concordia for dyslexia. The others keep the disability hidden for fear of being labelled "stupid."

"I know I have to work three or four times harder than anyone else to get an average grade, but I'm not stupid," says Wallis. "I just learn differently."

For his last exam in educational psychology, Wallis put in 96 hours of studying. His mark was 63 per cent. Angry over his exam result, Wallis confronted his professor.

"I told him I knew all the material," he says. "I just couldn't retain all the information."

It's a problem most dyslexics face on a daily basis. Reading is not as much a problem as understanding it.

"You people who read and write take it for granted," says Wallis. "I have to concentrate on every single word, but later I don't understand what I've just read."

Wallis has only one book on tape, his educational psychology textbook. In other instances, he must place tinted filters over his text to stop the words from bouncing on the page.

This allows him to read for up to four hours without severe eye strain or headaches. Otherwise, his attention span lasts only 15 minutes. It takes Wallis about two hours to read and understand 10 pages from a book.

The last book he read without the use of the filters, Jules Verne's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* was not "enjoyable."

"I read it and didn't remember anything from it," he says. The filters are one of 10 coping strategies proposed by Wallis to help students with learning disabilities. Others include The Franklin Word Master, a pocket-size spellcheck computer.

A student with a learning disability can spell the word phonetically onto the Franklin Speller and it automatically corrects the word and offers definitions.

Although he says parents should have their children tested if they sense the child has a learning disability, Wallis warns that dyslexics should not be always left under the care of so-called professionals.

"They can poke and prod you with all those experiments, but they'll never understand how it felt like for me in Grade One," says Wallis.

"That's why parents should learn more about dyslexia. My mother had two Phds and she didn't know what dyslexia was until I was diagnosed with it at 15."

Wallis gives regular lectures at the Learning Disabled Association of Quebec, trying to sensitize younger kids to this learning disability. Wallis admits some may not approve of his methods, but that doesn't faze him.

"The chances of me failing are a hell of a lot more real than that of the average student," he says. "That's why I have to be an arrogant bastard. I won't take any shit from anybody."

Learning to cop

by Tina Mintz

Matthew Lowe isn't the kind of student who waits until the last second to do his homework. He actually asks professers for reading assignments in advance.

The 24-year-old recreation and leisure student has trouble with reading, 'riting, and 'rithmatic. Lowe has dyslexia — a learning disability.

He's one of the lucky ones. Not many learning disabled people make it successfully through the school system to reach university.

But Lowe didn't get to Concordia only out of luck. It took a lot of hard work and patience.

"Before I start a new semester, I go to my professors and inform them of my disability," Lowe says. "Some really understand, others really don't know much about it."

Lowe still gets assignments in advance and spends extra time writing exams. All his course work and exams are written on a computer, which keeps his work neat and his thoughts clearer. To counter his "terrible" spelling", Lowe's computer is equipped with an automatic spell-check program.

An estimated 600,000 Quebecers have dyslexia. But many don't know it, and go through life being told they are stupid, disorganized, or lazy. Many give up trying to learn.

Disabilities, such as hyperactivity or autism, affect attention span, memory, reasoning, reading, writing, math and social skills. They can also delay educational and emotional development.

Lowe, like most children with an invisible disability, was called 'slow' and put into remedial classes.

"I felt bad being labeled and always standing out," Lowe says. "My teachers told my parents, 'Get Matt into a vocational route instead of an academic one because he'll be better suited for that.'

"My parents resisted all the way, because I had scored well above average on some intelligence tests. They just said 'No — Matt has another problem,' and they kept me channeled in the midstream courses. If it wasn't for their resistance, I would have ended up in vocational school, and never made

Breaking the sound barrier

Vivian Dang

I just recently started the long cess of coming out as a hearing aired person. Strangely enough, d there are a lot of experiences ommon with coming out as an n lesbian.

lthough I've been hearing im-ed all my life, I never had much eral support while learning sign uage or getting hearing aids, pt lots of frustrating yelling in onse to my "hanh?", "what?" or don me?".

his sort of reaction parallels the onse I sometimes get as a fairly e member in the lesbian and community. These people's first reflexes are just as horrendous as the homophobes who suspect that I'm the 'L word'. They say "what's wrong with you?", "what are those things in your ears?" or "I never knew you were deaf, you don't act like it!". Fortunately, most of my friends aren't 'disablephobes' or insensitive...anymore.

But every now and then someone will assume I'm invisible and talk to me through a friend or lover, in the third person -- maybe they think third world or third class. Hanh? What the hell is this bullshit?! Hey, I do speak English.

However, despite my repeated requests, some people still cover their mouths, mumble and/or face away from me when they're talkin' - so I give up on trying to enlighten them and turn off my without hearing aids and don't bother trying to read their lips -- I figure, if they are not going to try to be aware of my needs, then they are only creating noise pollution and I walk away. People complain that I'm excluding them and how are they ever going to understand if I don't educate them?! What! Educate them?! There's only so far I'm willing to go.

Its kinda' like my reaction to someone who asks to borrow my skateboard on perfect pavement (almost extinct in Quebec) or terrain -- Bail! Go read a book -- all the info is accessible, but is it all available in Braille or on tapes? You're the privileged one, don't look at me -- I'd rather spend my energy elsewhere and skate (even though it's goofy foot) off.

e with dyslexia

it to university."

Lowe isn't alone. It's estimated that one in 10 suffers from some type of learning disability, with men affected twice as much as women. Most are misunderstood: for example, parents and educators often misunderstand dyslexia.

"Your brain is like a computer and two chips don't work (when you have dyslexia)," explains Francine Gilbert, an official at the Learning Disabilities Association of Quebec (LDAQ). The rest of the computer works perfectly, it's just those two chips don't connect. That's a biological problem."

Gilbert suggests that there is a strong link between learning disabilities and the high rate of illiteracy in Canada.

"It is now said that approximately half of those who are illiterate never learned how to read or write because of a learning disability. They were probably never shown how to learn in a way that they could."

There are attempts to find solutions: Quebec's Ministry of Education declared 1990 literacy year and last month , about 1,200 delegates attended LDAQ's 15th annual two-day international conference on literacy at Montreal's Sheraton Centre.

Says Gilbert: "It has gotten better over the last 15 years. Even five years ago, nobody knew about learning disabilities, or talked about dyslexia. But there is still room for improvement. We need to give the learning disabled tools with which to work. We've got to learn how to show them how to learn."

This month, Lowe will settle down like everyone else to study for upcoming final exams. But he says having dyslexia still makes him feel different .

"A lot of people still don't understand and I don't always let people know right off the bat," Lowe says. "I want people to judge me for who I am, not for my disability.

"Sometimes when they know, they'll talk slower and try to humor me. I say come on, I'm like everyone else. I'm not stupid."

My Left Ear

by Mitch Albert

The tot gripped his mother's hand firmly as a bus pulled to a stop along Sherbrooke St.

The woman's body immediately tensed. She had been on edge all morning worrying about the newly-inserted apparatus wedged into her boy's ear.

Eyes wide, the child gasped and stared at the vehicle in wonder, taking in not its size but the whistle of the doors as they swung open, the hum of the engine, the traffic behind.

"Mummy!" the boy shouted, as if his words would not be heard above the new sounds flooding the world. "Now I know what the bus sounds like!

Cut, fade up violins, dissolve to credits.

I often feel uncomfortable describing my deafness as a liability. I've discovered that as disabilities go, it's nothing more than an inconvenience when I go swimming.

But hearing from only one ear - and not at all, at that, without the hearing aid that remains wedged into my ear most of the time - presents challenges that even severely-deaf people don't experience.

Deafness teaches insight. Forced to rely on modes of communication other than verbal, the hearing impaired person must learn to grab the nuance of a situation by picking up on physical cues. That twitch, those lowered eyes, that posture, all contain more information than the words or sentences you may have missed. The language of the body holds more truth than the spoken word.

And because listening is more vital than speaking , it becomes easy to verify whether anyone is listening to you. Suddenly, egos are laid bare, people can be read as text, and you develop a sort of psychic edge.

It also means you stand around at loud parties or clubs hoping to avoid being drawn into any conversation for longer than a beer commercial.

If someone does decide to discuss their intimate problems with you while Public Enemy thuds out from a pair of massive speakers, you just smile along and insert a few sincere-sounding snorts of agreement here and there because saying 'What was that?' or 'Sorry, I can't hear ya' gets tiresome after twelve tries.

The price you end up paying is looking like an aloof or phony asshole when it becomes apparent you haven't grasped a word.

Trying to hear every spoken word or sound clearly requires so much effort that the subsequent action of processing information occurs at a slower rate than normal.

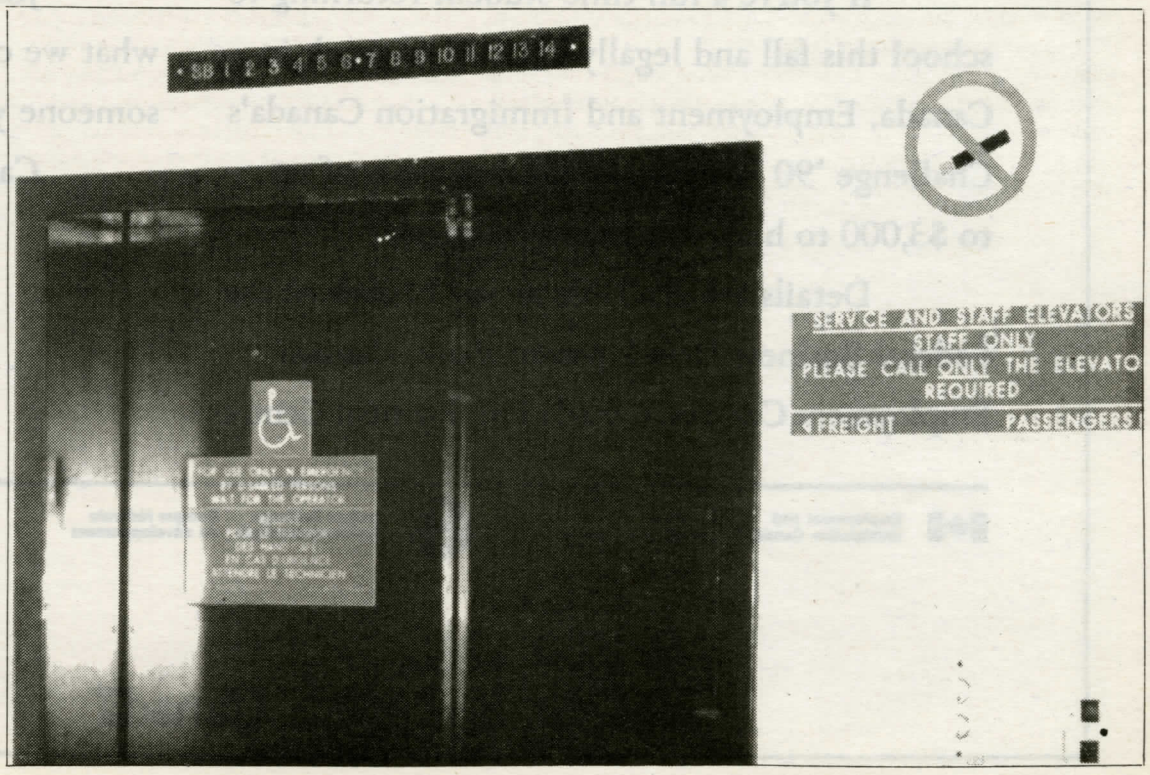
And although you become more proficient at mental shorthand, you tend to straggle behind others in multi-directional group banter.

There are also the inevitable inaccuracies: recently someone told me they had a sinus infection, and I wondered what the hell they had to sign a confession about.

Likewise, songs in which the lyrics are just beyond hearing distinctly; countless tunes are made more interesting (or banal) by simply making up the words.

The little things can get you down. Foreign languages, thick accents, and bearded men are hell on lipreading skills. Alarm clocks you can't hear don't wake you up. Getting caught without fresh hearing aid batteries at a play, having people think you're ignoring them, cumbersome (and uselessly in stereo) Walkmans, and impacted ear wax all momentarily reduce the quality of life. Not to mention phones with low volumes, mumbling performers and teachers, and movies dubbed instead of subtitled.

But hell, when you can get excited over hearing a bus roar to a stop, you gotta wonder what all the fuss is about.



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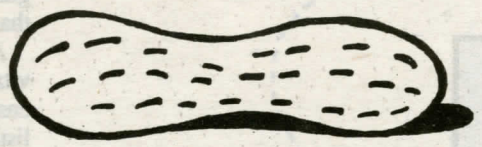

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Canada

Access key to success

by Heidi Modro

Small things bother Robert Malo in a big way.

"Often the only place there's room in a classroom is right near the door which is right next to the garbage," says Malo, a third-year Concordia commerce student. "The smell is always pretty bad."

Malo (not his real name) is fed up with smelling rotten banana peels for three years. Because he is in a wheelchair, Malo can't manoeuvre past other desks and is stuck close to classroom garbage cans.

Malo has also had trouble with the Hall building elevators. It sometimes takes him 20 minutes to get from the lobby up to a classroom on the 6th floor.

"The elevator doors open and everyone looks at me straight in the eyes. Then they suddenly look up at the elevator's ceiling and pretend I'm not there," Malo says.

"I know the escalators are always broken down but it still can get really frustrating. Those people can walk up the stairs; I can't. I wish someone would put up a sign to say that we have priority."

Although Concordia has earned a reputation as one of Canada's most accessible universities, it still poses a number of challenges to differently-abled students.

The downtown annexes on Mackay and Bishop, parts of the Norris library and the Administration Building at Loyola are completely inaccessible to some students and staff.

Many CUSA non-academic groups housed in the annexes are off limits to differently-abled students.

"I don't even really think about joining any of the CUSA groups because I know I'll never be able to even make it into the building," Malo says. "It limits your potential for getting involved in university life."

Concordia's Services for Disabled Students (SDS) has been in operation since 1980. With 18 computers and more than 40 volunteers, the centre offers a wide variety of services to Concordia's 250 students who have physical, visual, aural, and learning disabilities.

According Ann Kerby, SDS coordinator, this year the centre operates on $100,000 raised privately and another $9,000 received from Concordia's Council on Student Life.

For the first time, the centre got an additional $60,000 from the provincial Ministry of Education this year to provide such services as tutoring, counselling, and transmitters worn by professors which broadcast lectures to the hearing impaired.

Kerby says the centre has been successful in getting classes held in inaccessible buildings moved.

"The administration usually bends over backwards to reschedule a class which is inaccessible to a student," Kerby says. "We have handled the whole problem of classroom accessibility very well."

But, Kerby says the university and the government are not considering making major renovations for the differently-abled just yet.

Many of the associations currently housed in inaccessible annexes will be relocated to the new downtown library, now under construction.

But Kerby says Concordia "doesn't want to pour in all this money for renovations only to have (the clubs) move."

"Besides, the problem is not a lack of money or engineering design. Other than bombing the buildings there's not much you can do, with those narrow staircases. You can't build kamikaze ramps that violate the city code."

Physical plant director Frank Papineau says there's no plans are in the works.

"We've worked a lot in the past with Disabled Services to provide as much access where it was practical for us to do so," Papineau says. "It would require an in-depth study to know how much it would really cost to make the whole university completely accessible. "

As for the annexes, Papineau says renovations have been made in the buildings where it is possible.

"You have to remember those buildings are very old. It becomes very complicated to make changes to them. There's not much space to place ramps in front of them nor to make any other kind of changes," Papineau says.

Kerby says disabled services is planning a survey this summer to determine what it would take to make the university fully accessible. But she warns a "100 per cent accessible university will never happen."

According to Frank Smith, national coordinator of the Ottawa-based National Educational Association for Disabled Students (NEADS), Concordia scored well in an accessibility study which surveyed 130 universities.

"Our results indicate services are at a high level despite some problems with physical accessibility," Smith says.

Services for the differently-abled have been improving across Canada, he says, with the exception of campuses like Queen's in Kingston which was built 100 or more years ago. Smith also says the trend is for more differently-abled people to

enrol in universities. He says eight to 10 per cent of all post-secondary students are differently-abled.

Kerby says there are about 300 students who use SDS.

PHOTO BY PATRICIA GOUGH

Government coughs up at last

by Elena Lonero

Up until this year, the provincial government hadn't contributed one cent to services for differently-abled students at Concordia.

For the first time, the Ministry of Education opened its wallet to give the Services for Disabled Students (SDS) $60,000 to spend on equipment and personnel for the resource centre.

"They (students) will benefit by having quicker services, particularly in material adaptation," said Ann Kerby, coordinator of SDS. "It's the first money we've seen."

In the past, SDS relied on funds from the university and private donors. After a long wait, it received a Kurzweil Personal Reader which gives visually or print-impaired people quick and independent access to printed information not readily available.

Daily supplies are extremely expensive, according to Kerby. Braille paper and cassettes to tape printed material cost thousands of dollars alone. SDS will spend $15,000 this year for oral interpreters.

The ministry gave Kerby a funding limit and asked her to submit a breakdown of where the money will be spent.

"They gave us every cent in the areas we asked for," she said.

Ministry officials highlighted areas they considered to be underfunded, but they gave SDS the freedom to decide how the money should be used. Funding to CEGEPs and high schools is much more closely controlled.

Kerby said the government has shown a "solid" commitment to improving services for differently-abled students.

"There is no need to scrounge anymore." But, she said, "we have to have sustaining money next year."

Kerby is confident the funding will continue into the future. Once a base of services is established, Kerby said SDS can begin to address some needs currently not being met.

Additional computers with braille and voice, another automatic reader/scanner, telecommunication devices for the hearing impaired, acoustical equipment, and special software have been purchased with the new funds. Also, SDS is able to employ part time interpreters and trainers for material adaptation equipment.

The Link Publication Society Board of Directors

ANNUAL MEETING

AGENDA
1. General business
2. Elections to board

All undergraduate students who pay a fee levy are shareholders in the Society, an autonomous student corporation. All shareholders are encouraged to attend.

Elections will be held for student members on the 1990/91 Board of Directors. All shareholders are eligible to run.

***Link* staff members will attend to answer questions shareholders may have about the newspaper's content or practices.**

Fri. April 6, 2pm H-649

Agenda continued from page 2

Bi-the-way, a discussion group for bisexual women meets every second Friday at Concordia Women's Centre. info: 848-7431

Lesbian Studies coalition of Concordia. Every Wednesday at 2120 Bishop (lounge). 2 p.m. .

CLASSIFIED ADS

We do NOT take classifieds by phone. RATES: 20 cents a word for Concordia students, 25 cents per word for non-students and business ads. Deadlines are 5 pm Friday for Tuesday's issue, and 5 pm Wednesday for Friday's issue. Come to room 649 in the Hall Building, to fill out one of our painless forms. HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 10-5; Ads MUST be accompanied by payment, or they will not run.

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LOST & FOUND

LOST & FOUND ads in the Link are FREE!!

FOUND: Con U ring = 1980 found Thurs, Mar. 29 @ Bill Wong restaurant. Call Linda @ 738-8300 ext. 2519

FOUND - Ring in Hall Bldg. 484-9554, Dee.

LOST - Dark brown leather pencil case, Wed. March 14 around 7:30pm, 5th floor. ID card, accounting and statistics pass cards were in it. Please contact Karen Hillier at 288-1034.

LOST - a gold square link bracelet. Please contact Tanya Mizrahi, 681-8367. Very Valuable - BIG REWARD.

LOST - Flat, silver coated bracelet with hearts at links. Very sentimental. Lost at Loyola. Value $20.00. Reward $25.00. Call Marc 677-7089. Please.

LOST - Sharp Calculator. Between Vanier Library and Loyola shuttle. Chris. 487-6771.

Lost - Pyle's *History of English* SGW Campus. Call Robert at 848-4865

LOST — I lost a pen! Wed. March 28, 10pm in ER 401 (2155 Guy). White & silver Parker Pen with inscription in Hebrew. Sentimental Value! Please Please Please return it! Reward! Sharon 484-5512

Correction:

The photograph on page 5 of the Women's Issue (March 21) should be credited to Yassaman Ameri. *The Link* apologizes for any misunderstandings.

Deadline

for

Agenda & Classifieds

for the last issue of the year is Friday, April 5, 1990 at 5 pm

The last issue comes out April 10

Wheelchairs in the air

by Mitch Albert

Disabled people longing to explore the world beyond their already-limited boundaries first must come up with the heavy cash, according to a Montreal travel agent who frequently organizes tours for the physically challenged. What's more, Elizabeth Langenbach said, their destinations might be "unrealistic."

"I would never put a disabled person on a 15-hour flight to Asia," Langenbach said as an example. "It would be very, very difficult, and Asia is not good for accessibility. That's the reality of life."

Langenbach said travel costs are high for most disabled people, who must often travel with companions to help tend to their needs.

"Only with various airlines within North America does a disabled person's companion get 50 per cent off the fare," she said. "But not all of them. And for transatlantic flights, forget about it."

Furthermore, Langenbach said, disabled people must pay extra for special facilities.

"This may sound stupid and banal, but it always boils down to the bathroom," she said. "My biggest hassle is with bathroom accessibility, in planes as well as hotels. Even in Miami very few places have bathroom access."

An average two-week trip to California for a disabled person, according to Langenbach, costs about $2,350 (U.S.). Touring the Canadian Rockies costs about $2,495 for two weeks, she said.

Jean Albert is a former travel agent who began to specialize in travel for the disabled in 1981, the International Year of the Disabled. According to her, travel opportunities for the physically challenged have not improved since she began her research.

"Travel agents don't find it a profitable venture," she said. "I invested thousands of dollars but no one was interested."

It also takes time.

"I did a trip for a quadriplegic doctor who wanted to attend a convention in New Orleans," Albert said. "It took three and a half months to organize. He had to travel with a catheter inserted in his side, and the only ones who would provide transportation from the airport were the local Easter Seal people."

Travel agents were not the only reluctant ones. Albert said she showed one Florida hotel manager how he could make entrances more accessible using only a few boards.

"His answer to me was 'Lady, I'm in the business of hotels, not taking care of cripples'."

Langenbach agrees that many resorts and hotels don't relish the thought of disabled clientele.

"It's unfortunate, but people do not want to see disabled people on their holidays. It's not just hotel managers, it's the general public," she said.

Travel for the disabled is not always frustrating. Both Langenbach and Albert said many tour operators in Europe are adept at prearranging comfortable stays there for disabled tourists.

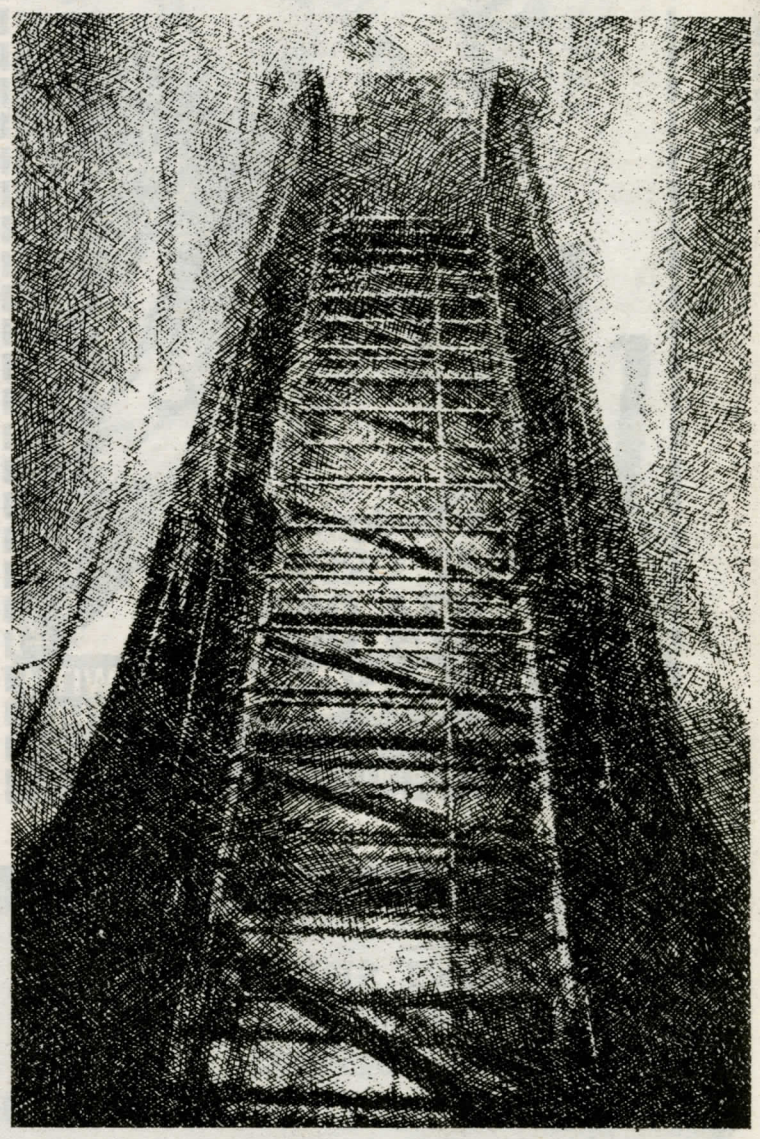
The Society for Advancement in Travel for the Handicapped (SATH), located in Brooklyn, N.Y., also organizes sophisticated tours for people with special travel needs.

It remains a fact, however, that the logistics of travel for the disabled force the costs beyond the means of most students.

There is much to be done yet. Albert left the travel business in 1987, passing on her research to Langenbach.

"I was getting tired of getting nowhere," she said.

Elizabeth Langenbach can be reached at JBL Travel, 482-3950. Disabled Services, on the 5th floor of the Hall Building, has two excellent books on travel: Handi-Travel and Accés Tourisme.



Waffling on words

Disabled.
Differently-abled.
With special needs.
Challenged.
Handicapped.
Crippled.
What's in a word?

All these terms were thrown around in discussions of an appropriate name for this issue.Of course there are always those who dismiss the need to choose our words carefully. But, before you dismiss an argument about silly little words, beware.

Words are powerful purveyors of ideas and attitudes. Consciously or unconsciously, the names we use go further than identification. Labels send a strong message. They reveal what we think about people.

Finding the best word may be a minor concern compared to struggling for equal treatment and university accessibility. Yet, we can't afford to ignore the words. Our society tends to label and categorize groups much too easily, forgetting individual differences and needs.

And, as most groups realize, language is an important indicator of social attitudes. In this case, words can relay condescension or repugnance, or give the impression that people with disabilities are subhuman or incapable.

Right off the bat, the students we talked to dismissed the outdated and insulting terms 'handicapped' and 'confined to a wheelchair'. Handicapped actually comes from 'cap in hand' and refers to those who beg to survive.At one time, most 'differently-abled' people had to rely on the cast-offs of others.

Much has changed. But survival may still mean day in and day out in without a job.

It is easier for the government to mail a check than to establish educational programs or legislate affirmative action to try to end discrimination against differently-abled individuals seeking employment.

Opinion

Based on recommendations and with staff consensus, we decided to go with 'differently-abled'. Differently-abled may not roll off the tongue easily but it has nothing to hide. It also doesn't convey a message of 'abnormality'.

Instead, differently-abled advocates a change in attitude. At the very least, the label will make somebody angry. Angry enough to stop and think about the names we use and what they mean to the people we apply them too.

We should judge individuals, not groups. We have to remember that someone with a different ability is just that, different not inferior.

More opinion

The dissenting view holds that 'differently-abled' has everything to hide. It is squishy-liberal on a subject that has altogether too many middle-of-the-road views already. Militance and a determination not to hide anything are required in order to combat discrimination and improve the quality of life of the many who are shunted into dark corners of mere existence.

Lenny Bruce, doing his bit on racial epithets, maintained that a word's taboo gives it its power. The more usage those uncomfortable words get, the more diluted is their capacity to offend. The disabled should no more be euphemized — or trivialized — than Blacks called 'differently-pigmented' or gays and lesbians 'differently-preferenced'.

The disabled do not lack the ability to succeed. They lack the ability to use specific physical/mental faculties common to all humans. One is more likely to be 'differently-abled' if s/he has a hangover or an ingrown toenail. Tell it like it is.

U of T students vote for access

By Maylin Scott

TORONTO (CUP) -- University of Toronto students are putting their money where their mouths are to improve accessibility to campus buildings.

70 per cent of the 4,275 students who voted in student council elections in March agreed to a three year, $30 student levy to improve accessibility for persons with a disability.

"I'm absolutely delighted," said Eileen Barbeau, coordinator for Services to Disabled Persons. "I would hope this would give a clear indication of how students feel and prioritize things, and I hope others will join the bandwagon."

Barbeau said she does not yet know how the money will be spent but a committee will be formed to make those decisions.

"As soon as the money is available, we would want to start something right away," she said. "I would also want to involve students in the decision making process."

Rennovations should begin in the fall.

The levy will raise approximately $2.7 million over the three years, but Barbeau said this is short of the approximately $10 million needed to make the entire university accessible.

U of T gets $800,000 from the province to promote services for disabled persons. But the money can only be used for expenses such as hiring staff and not for renovations.

Service is the name of the game

Services for Disabled Students (SDS) at Concordia include a range of services and programs. The following is a general list of what's available. Students will find

- a volunteer programme
- braille services
- a taped text library for visually impaired or learning disabled students
- a comprehensive orientation
- a library and a bookstore
- exam accommodations
- readers, tutors, notetakers and editors
- resource materials on a variety of subjects
- assorted accessibility aids including elevatorkeys, parking permits and classroom relocation
- evacuation plans
- advising and advocacy

Programs include

- word processing workshops
- ASL - sign language workshops
- special training on equipment available at SDS

And for the latest in student news SDS also offers the Link on audio cassette.

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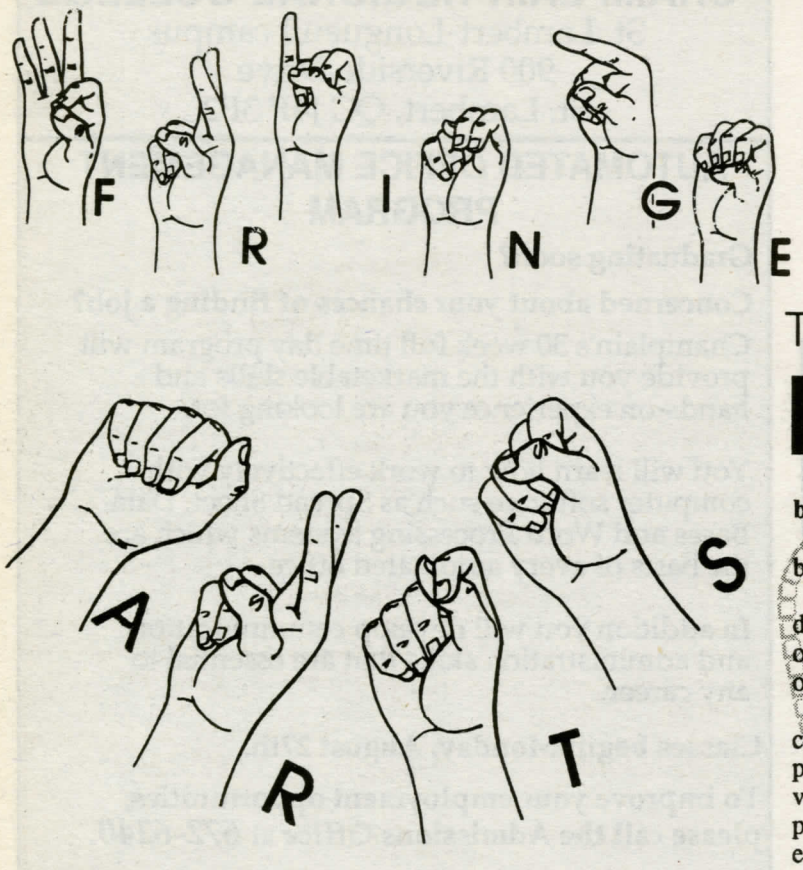

Theatre 50-50

Summer course with a social conscience

by Todd Stones

"It's a loose confederation, even looser than Canada," Professor Bernie Warren quipped when describing Concordia's THEATRE 50-50.

THEATRE 50-50, was created in August 1988 by Warren and Professor George Mager, to provide opportunities for able-bodied and differently-abled performers to work together and learn from each other. The name THEATRE 50-50 refers to the equal interaction in this highly innovative company.

The company is putting on an outdoor play in July, incorporating puppets, dance and music. This will be part of a two-week intensive summer session offered as a Concordia credit course.

"At the moment, it's open auditions," Warren said. "One of the things about this company is that it's for anybody. We accept anybody irrespective of their disability or ability."

Warren said the company has a firm philosophy about different abilities. "We believe very strongly that everybody has some form of disabling condition," he said. "All of us do."

The company's first play, *Another Day*, was performed last April at Concordia and at a conference for special education in Montreal. The play enjoyed an overwhelming audience response and met with critical acclaim.

Although performance is integral to the company, Warren carefully pointed out the company's intention to stretch the abilities of all its members, and to enhance their social performance in everyday life through drama.

"The important thing about THEATRE 50-50 is that it's not a theatre of the ghetto," he said. "We do not focus on disability. Our primary focus is on putting on the highest quality aesthetic experience that this company is capable of."

Warren said he would like this year's summer course to extend to a summer institute, where students from across the country could come together and work in an integrated environment.

Warren also hopes, out of the summer institute, will come a professional company of about eight people, four of whom are differently-abled.

THEATRE 50-50'S upcoming play, unnamed as of yet, will be performed at the Loyola quadrangle from July 3 - 16.

For more information on the summer course or participation in THEATRE 50-50, contact Dr. Bernie Warren at the Concordia Theatre Department, 848-4747.

The differently-abled make it on film

Hitting the big screen

by Maya Bashour

Most people go to the movies to be entertained.

Until recently, films about the differently-abled were not the stuff of which entertainment was made of.

We are told people go to the safe confines of a cinema to be transported into another world of adventure and thrills; but above all, people wish to feel happy and at ease. They don't go to the cinema to be faced with the uncomfortable thought, 'there, but for the grace of god, go I.'

When films about the differently-abled are brought to production companies, they usually turn up their noses and give the standard response "no one wants to see a depressing movie," or "it's a tough subject and difficult to market."

Until recently, because of such excuses, films about the differently-abled were considered uncommercial. So, the only time people with different abilities appeared on celluloid was in the melodramatic TV Movie of the Week.

Yet, recent films with differently-abled main characters, *Rain Man*, *Born on the Fourth of July* and *My Left Foot*, have received both critical and public acclaim. And, more importantly for Big Hollywood Companies, they have been financially successful.

These films have defied the odds. They take what is considered a 'depressing' subject which most of us avoid if possible, and turn out strong, moving and uplifting films.

They play a crucial role in helping people "look past the package": the wheelchair, the physical disability or the different behavior — to see instead the individual with the human qualities we all share.

By portraying characters with humour, energy, hope and beauty, these films lift their subject from a source of dread to one of inspiration.

The courage Ron Kovic *(Born on the Fourth of July)*, Christian Brown *(My Left Foot)* and Rocky Denis *(Mask)* display, makes one realize the capabilities of the human soul, in terms of survival. The poster for *My Left Foot* proclaims "a film about life, laughter, and the occasional miracle." This can describe many quality films dealing with the differently-abled.

Films about the differently-abled

• *My Left Foot*: The true story of painter and writer Christian Brown who had cerebral palsy. This British/Irish production stars Daniel Day Lewis, Brenda Flicker and Ray McCanally. Director Jim Sheridan. It won two Oscars for Best Actor (Lewis) and Supporting Actress (Flicker). (1989)

• *Born on the Fourth of July*: The true story of Ron Kovic, paralysed from the waist down. Tom Cruise stars, in this film directed by Oliver Stone (Oscar for Best Director). (1989)

• *Rain Man*: A film about the relationship between two brothers, one of whom is autistic savant. The film stars Dustin Hoffman and Tom Cruise and is director Barry Levinson. It won four Oscars for Best Picture, Director, Actor (Hoffman) and screenplay. (1988)

• *Children of a Lesser God*: Deals with the relationship between a teacher at a school for the hearing impaired and a janitor who works there. It stars Marlee Matlin (a hearing impaired actress who won an Oscar for her role) and William Hurt. Directed by Randa Haines. (1986)

• *Mask*: Based on the true story of Rocky Denis, a young boy disfigured by a rare disease, and the relationship with his mother. It stars Cher and Eric Stoltz and is directed by Peter Bogdanovish. (1985)

• *Elephant Man*: Another true story. John Merrick was disfigured by elephantitis, and is shown compassion for the first time by an eminent doctor in Victorian London. Stars John Hurt and Antony Hopkins were directed by David Lynch (1980)

• *Tim*: This Australian film deals with a relationship between an older woman and a mentally challenged younger man. It is based on Colleen McCullough's (of *Thornbirds* fame) first novel and stars Piper Laurie and Mel Gibson. Micheal Pate is the director. (1979)

• *Johnny Blinda*: Tells the story of a young girl who is hearing and speech impaired, and a doctor who helps her. It stars Jane Wyman (Oscar for Best Actress) and Lew Ayres and is directed by Jean Negulesco. (1948)

PHOTO BY PATRICIA GOUGH

The Dance Factory performed Tuesday as part of the World University Services of Canada Caravan on the Mezzanine of the Hall Building. Caravan is an international handicrafts sale and exhibition on until Thursday, April 5th.

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Concordia University
1990 Spring Convocations

INFORMATION TO POTENTIAL GRADUATES

This year the Convocations will be held as follows:

Thursday, June 7
ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE
Theatre Maisonneuve
10:00 a.m.

Monday, June 11
ARTS & SCIENCE
Theatre Maisonneuve
10:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 7
FACULTY OF FINE ARTS
Concert Hall (Loyola Campus)
4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 12
ARTS & SCIENCE
Salle Wilfred-Pelletier
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 13
COMMERCE & ADMINISTRATION
Salle Wilfred-Pelletier
7:30 p.m.

Letters forwarded to successful candidates in the Faculty of Arts and Science will clearly indicate the time of Convocation on a personal basis.

Students will be notified by letter in late May of the successful completion of their degree programme. This letter will also give information about academic dress, tickets and convocation procedures.

Students are advised to check with the Students' Accounts Office to ensure that all student fees, library fines, and graduation fees have been paid. Students are requested to pay their accounts with a money-order, certified cheque, or cash by May 11th in order to be permitted to participate in the convocation ceremonies or receive degrees

Any graduate requiring special services during the convocation ceremonies (i.e. escort, special seating etc.) because of physical disability, please contact Ann Kerby, Co-ordinator of Services for Disabled Students, at 848-3501.

Sports*beat*

Sports for all

by Paul Graif

Dedication and a lot of heart keeps the Special Olympic program alive across Canada.

In Quebec, there are over 1,300 differently-abled athletes. They range in age from five to 50, and participate in a variety of sports: swimming, weight lifting, hockey and track and field each week. About 325 local volunteers are also involved in the program.

Contrary to popular belief, the Special Olympic program does not only send athletes to large events. It also runs weekly athletic programs.

The Montreal chapter of the Canadian Special Olympics, a registered charity, is run by four full time staffers who maintain and develop fitness, sports and recreation training programs for the athletes.

Danielle Veilleux, Administrator and Coordinator of Projects, loves her job working with people.

"It's great to see the athlete participate," she said. "It's wonderful."

But, the athletes aren't the only ones who benefit from participating, the volunteers and coaches also enjoy themselves.

"Win or lose, the reaction is always the same, they are very happy,' Veilleux said.

The organization receives most of its funding (81 per cent) from a national fundraising campaign. The rest comes from the federal government.

The Special Olympics take place every four years. This year, they will be held in Vancouver, June 10 - 15. Quebec will be sending a team of 65 athletes.

Montreal has two main events planned before Vancouver: a floor hockey tournament in Lasalle and a track and field competition in St-Jerome.

Sportsbriefs

Concordia's Intramural Broomball reigns supreme over McGill, as in almost all of the other team sports this season.

Concordia put together two all-star teams that beat up on their McGill counterparts by 9-1 and 7-2 scores on March 23. Top scorer was regular season point leader, Todd Adams who tallied 4 times while adding three assists in the first game.

Adams amassed 45 goals and 62 points for the league champion Black Knights. The Knights finished the season with an unblemished 16-0 record.

The final game matched the top two teams, the Knights and the Dweebs. As has been the case all year long in sports everywhere, the championship game was a blowout, the Knights won 5-1, their second title in four years.

Regular season standings saw the Black Knights finish with an amazing 32 points, followed by the Dweebs with 20, the Inside Traders with 18, Red Baranovs with 15 points, while TKE and the Kappa Chi Knights brought up the rear with 8 and 3 points respectively.

Scoring leaders behind Adams, were L. Alexander of the Dweebs, he had 45 points, S. Poupart, had 35 for TKE, and Michael Rinaldi, also of the Black Knights, he totalled 33 points for the year.

Editors Note:

Hallelujah to Sylvain Bouchard, the sports editor of that other school paper, for finally printing a retraction on his article; "Basketball Team Winning But Still Controversial." It takes a big man to admit when he's wrong. Sorry Sylvain, it's too late, you look like a bandwagon jumper.

However, I would like to thank Sylvain for being a good guy in Halifax, at the Nationals, where we sharred a hotel room. It prooves that the Link and the Concordian can co-exist peacefully.

Top scorer graduates

Laplante to play in Europe

by Francois Amyot

Stingers' high scorer Richard Laplante will leave a big hole in the men's hockey offence when he graduates this spring. But he isn't heading towards the NHL.

He plans to go to Europe to start a small business and play hockey there. Stinger coach Paul Arsenault is disappointed.

Laplante's scoring punch, his quick moves and instinct for the game fooled many players in the OUAA..

"As a coach, I have the responsibility to develop my players as much as I can." Arsenault said. "So I'm getting in touch with some NHL franchises who could be interested in Richard."

The Chicago Blackhawks chose him in the eighth round of the 1985 draft. But they never gave sign of life, perhaps because of his small size (5'11").

"I think I wasn't at the right place at the right time to interest the NHL clubs," Laplante said. "Sometimes, I look to some players there and I think I could play with them, but I would still need a training camp to really judge myself. Some teams like St. Louis, Winnipeg or Vancouver have some open spots at the centre position."

Now 22 years old, he said he never had high hopes of playing in the NHL. He is realistic, but won't rule out the idea.

"It's not a priority for me to play in the NHL, although I would like it. I receive offers from European teams, and the new Global league could be an opportunity too."

"When I came here, I had no pressure to produce. I just did the things I had to do. Paul (Arsenault) gave me confidence and let me play," Laplante said.

"During my first year, we could have gone very far, but we didn't have the right attitude. I think we had a 10-1 start and finished around .500 . But the last two years, the team spirit replaced the talent." he added.

Laplante wore the "C" on his shirt this year. It was his third year, so he had the experience. It's also a vote of confidence from the players.

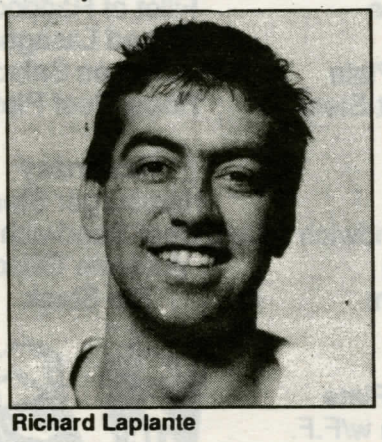
"When things were going bad, I tried to keep a positive atmosphere and hold the guys together," Laplante said.

The 1989-90 season is a disappointing one for the Stingers' captain.

"We had the potential to go further, but some guys wanted to finish the season early in our playoff game at York (which they lost 8-2). Maybe they were not happy with their ice time. This attitude may have reflected on other players too."

"The future of the team is still bright. The rookies are very talented, but they must be surrounded by bigger players who know how to play a physical style. With another good draft, the Stingers should be contender for the Vanier Cup within a year or two."

From Boucherville, Laplante is the youngest of three children (he has a brother and a sister). Like many Canadian kids, he began to skate at a fairly young age (five) and rapidly became adept at hockey.



Richard Laplante

"Hockey has always been something special to me," he says.

He played minor hockey in Boucherville and in La Vallee du Richelieu. His natural talent emerged when he played for the Richelieu Riverains, in Midget AAA.

His talent is due to his love of the sport and his dedication and hard work.

"I practiced every day with my father, around five or six o'clock in the morning. I played all the time, on the ice or in the street."

Drafted by the Longueuil Chevaliers (in the QMJHL), he decided to pursue his studies and favorite sport at the University of Vermont, at the age of 17. School was easy for him, he said.

"The only problem I had in Vermont was my relation with the coach. He asked me to dump the puck in the corner and skate after it — the Montreal Canadiens style. My style is to create opportunities with my passes and quickness. I play with finesse."

Laplante played at Concordia for the same reasons he did at UVM.

"Playing hockey and going to university is a wonderful life. I never had trouble with the players and the coach. The life on campus was extraordinary and it's gratifying to graduate. I had fun."

Next issue; last issue...

VOYAGES CAMPUS
Partout avec vous!

Student Fares

Montreal to	Return	One way
Nice	$489.00	$299.00
Frankfurt	$529.00	$309.00
Dusseldorf	$529.00	$309.00
Madrid	$489.00	$359.00
Lisbon	$489.00	$359.00
Athens	$739.00	$389.00
Zagreb	$699.00	$429.00
Vienna	$579.00	$329.00
Rome	$519.00	$359.00
Paris	$389.00	$299.00
London	$389.00	$289.00

Contact Travel Cuts for conditions & seasonality of Student Fares.

1455 de Maisonneuve W.
Hall Building, Rm 643
288-1130
Loyola
Campus Centre
848-2887

TRAVEL CUTS
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DENTIST

Dr. Albert Harroch, D.D.S.
7400 Sherbrooke St. W.; Suite 100 B
(2 blocks west of Loyola Campus)
Montreal, Quebec H4B 1R8
(514) 487-3633

LIVE COMEDY
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WOODY'S PUB

1234 Bishop

SHOWTIMES

THUR. & SUN. 8:30 pm
FRI. & SAT. 8:30 & 11:00 pm

WED. SPECIAL
McGILL THEATRESPORT PLAYERS
8:30 pm Admission: 2 For $5.00

398-9661

WELCOME CONCORDIA STUDENTS WELCOME CONCORDIA STUDENTS WELCOME CONCORDIA STUDENTS WELCOME CONCORDIA STUDENTS

PJ PUB PJ

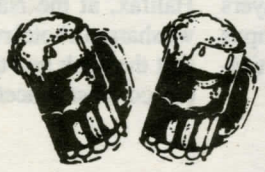
6910 St. Jacques W.

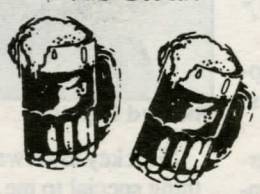
Sports via Satellite

RESERVATIONS 489-6356

Daily Specials $3.63 11am - 10pm

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Spaghetti Meat Sauce	Shepherd's Pie	Fillet of Haddock
Meat Loaf	Ham Steak	Baked Lasagna
Hot Chicken	Hot Roast Pork Plate	Chicken Salad
Rib Steak	Small New York Cut Steak	Roast Beef Plate
Thursday	**Friday**	**Saturday**
Rigatoni Meat Sauce	Beef Stew	Hamburger Steak
Fillet of Sole	Hot Roast Beef Sandwich	Cold Beef Sandwich w/F.F.
Hamburger Steak	Fish -n- Chip	Julienne Salad
Corned Beef w/Cabbage	Baked Rigatoni	Rib Steak
	Sunday	
	Michigan Burger Plate	
	Cold Pork Sandwich w/F.F.	
	Baked Spaghetti	
	Small Steak	





3PM - 10 PM Daily
BUFFALO WINGS
15 pieces 4.95
25 pieces 7.95
40 pieces 12.95
Bar-B-Q sauce, honey, spicy
1/2 Price Mon., Tues. & Wed.

Pizza everyday **$3.63**
3pm -10pm

coming...
Sunday April 8th at 9:00 pm
Bowser & Blue
admission $3.00

André Landre
at the turntable

P.J. DANCE BAR
THURSDAY TO SATURDAY

Happy Hour 7 Days a Week
4 to 6pm